

**CITY OF HANCOCK
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20th, 2019**

6:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Call to order and pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Haeussler.

Roll call and verification of quorum

Present: Blau, Lytle, Haeussler, Slivon, Seguin, LaBine

Absent: Warstler

Motion by Councilor LaBine and supported by Councilor Blau to excuse Councilor Warstler.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Also Present: Barry Givens, Mary Babcock, Michael Markham, Jared Hykras, Rick Allen, Marti Allen, Mitch Lake, John Budd, Michael Lorence, Jay Ruohonen, and other community members.

Motion by Councilor Seguin and supported by Councilor Lytle to approve the agenda with the following addition of BOR alternate under new business.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Mayoral Proclamation

Mayoral proclamation was presented to Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity for the 2019 MTU Winter Carnival winning snow statue. This is the 11th time in the last 13 years that the Fraternity has won the contest.

Communications

Motion by Councilor Lytle and supported by Councilor Seguin to accept and file the following communications.

UPPCO	2-1-2019
DEQ	2-7-2019
Houghton County Fair 2018 year-end report	
DEQ	1-22-2019
Carolyn Tormala	1-23-2019
State of Michigan – Semco Energy	

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment

No Comment

Previous Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilor LaBine and supported by Councilor Slivon to approve and file the meeting minutes with date revision on February 5th minutes.

January 16th 2019 Council Meeting

February 5th 2019 Special Council Meeting

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Reports

Motion by Councilor Seguin and supported by Councilor LaBine to receive and file the reports as presented.

Planning Commission	1-28-2019
Quincy Haven Apts.	1-2019
PLWSA	1-10-2019

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Administrative Report

- FEMA projects are moving forward for spring construction. Every Thursday we have a conference call with our FEMA representative.
- FHWA Project on White and Ingot will be locally let rather than a MDOT let project. The project will go out February 21st.
- Ordinance Review Committee met on February 7, 2019 to review the current ordinance information. The next meeting will be March to start setting priorities in the review process.
- Franklin Township Water Service agreement states that they will pay 34% over the rate that the City pays Adams Township. The new rate for Franklin Township will be \$2.28/1000.
- Portage Township has requested information about the hookup cost and other associated water costs to gain access to the City of Hancock water line. The City Manager will do research to find out the capacity and volume available.
- Wilmers Heating & Cooling Service is working on the City Hall boilers. They are still under warranty.
- UPSET West update was held on February 13, 2019. The City Manager and Mayor John Haeussler attended the presentation on UPSET's activity and services.
- General Fund year to date budget information was presented.

- PLSWA flow is at 39% of the total daily flow at the facility. Goal in the spring will be to use the information gathered from the SAW grant to help reduce the flow.
- Energy Efficiency Grant has been awarded in the amount of \$25,000 to retrofit lights in the DPW garage, City Hall, Transit Building, and Fire Hall.
- There are new reporting requirements for the DDA in 2019. The DDA plan is due to the State Dept of Treasury on April 1, 2019. All other reporting requirements are effective on December 31, 2019.
- DPW are working hard on maintaining the roads. Patience is needed with the snow removal considering the amount of snow that has been received.

Old Business

Motion by Councilor Seguin and supported by Councilor Blau to the appointment of Doug Lancour to the Board of Review.

Roll Call

Yes: Blau, Lytle, Slivon, Haeussler, Seguin, LaBine

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Seguin and supported by Councilor Lytle to approve the contract with Northern Pipe, Inc. in the amount of \$24,072.50.

Roll Call

Yes: LaBine, Seguin, Haeussler, Slivon, Lytle, Blau

No: None

Motion Carried

New Business

Motion by Councilor Blau and supported by Councilor LaBine to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$298,803.21.

Roll Call

Yes: LaBine, Seguin, Haeussler, Slivon, Lytle, Blau

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Lytle and supported by Councilor LaBine to adopt resolution 19-02 to allow local residents to protest BOR in writing.

Roll Call

Yes: Blau, Lytle, Slivon, Haeussler, Seguin, LaBine

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Seguin and supported by Councilor Slivon to adopt Resolution 19-03 BOR Procedures for Granting and Removal Real Property Exemptions.

Roll Call

Yes: None

No: LaBine, Seguin, Haeussler, Slivon, Lytle, Blau

Motion Failed

Motion by Councilor LaBine and supported by Councilor Lytle to not adopt Resolution 19-04 BOR Poverty Exemption.

Roll Call

Yes: Blau, Lytle, Slivon, Haeussler, Seguin, LaBine

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor LaBine and supported by Councilor Seguin to approve the Quincy Franklin Water Authority rate increase to reflect the City of Hancock's increase from Adams Township plus 34%.

Roll Call

Yes: LaBine, Seguin, Haeussler, Slivon, Lytle, Blau

No: None

Motion Carried

A work session will be set up in March by the City Manager to discuss the 2019 City Projects and Goals.

A motion was made by Councilor LaBine and supported by Councilor Blau to appoint Susan Boxer as and alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals expiring 7-31-2022.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment-

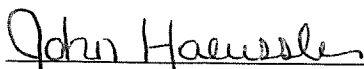
John Budd, 127 Water Street – The City Council should address the ordinances that involve the snowmobile traffic. With the increase in snow there will be an increase in snowmobilers and this should be addressed sooner rather than later.

City Council Comments:


Councilor Seguin thanked John Budd for bringing the snowmobile issue to their attention.

Mayor Haeussler will be out of town March 8th to March 17th.

Motion by Councilor LaBine and supported by Councilor Seguin to adjourn at 7:20 pm.



John Haeussler, Mayor



Mary Babcock, Clerk

CITY OF HANCOCK
HOUGHTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

19-02

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW LOCAL RESIDENTS TO PROTEST IN WRITING

At a regular City Council Meeting held on February 20, 2019 the following resolution was offered by Will Lytle and supported by Paul LaBine;

In order to ease the burden on taxpayers, the Assessor and the Board of Review, and to ensure that all taxpayers have an equal opportunity to be heard by the Board of Review, the City hereby resolves, according to provisions of MCL 211.30(8), that the Board of Review shall receive letters of protest regarding assessments from resident taxpayers from the first Tuesday in March until it adjourns from the public hearings for which it meets to hear such protests, or as otherwise specified on the Notice of Assessment.

The vote in favor of the resolution being as follows:

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

Resolution declared adopted.

John Haeussler
John Haeussler, Mayor

Mary Babcock
Mary Babcock, Clerk

CERTIFICATION

As the City Clerk, for The City of Hancock, Houghton County, Michigan, I certify that this a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council at its Regular City Council meeting.

Date: 2/20/19

Mary Babcock
Mary Babcock, Clerk

CITY OF HANCOCK
HOUGHTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

19-03

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT PROCEDURES FOR GRANTING AND REMOVING REAL
PROPERTY EXEMPTIONS

At a regular City Council Meeting held on Feb - 20 2019 the following resolution was
offered by Sequin and supported by Sliven;

To adopt procedures for granting and removing real property exemptions as described in Chapter 6:
Property Tax Exemptions, Abatements and Tax Capture Authorities of the State Tax Commission
Manual, Bulletin 7 of 2016 (Senior Citizen & Disabled Family Housing Exemption), Bulletin 26 of 2017
(Charitable Exemption), The Michigan Strategic Fund Board designates Tool and Die Renaissance
Recovery Zones pursuant to MCL 125.2688d & Nonferrous Metallic Minerals Extraction Severance Tax
Act,(Act 410 of 2012), as attached hereto making them part of the resolution.

The vote in favor of the resolution being as follows:

YEAS: 0

NAYS: 6

ABSENT: 1

Resolution declared adopted.

John Haeussler
John Haeussler, Mayor

Mary Babcock
Mary Babcock, Clerk

CERTIFICATION

As the City Clerk, for The City of Hancock, Houghton County, Michigan, I certify that this a true and complete copy
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Date:

Mary Babcock
Mary Babcock, Clerk

CITY OF HANCOCK
HOUGHTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN
19-04

POVERTY EXEMPTION RESOLUTION

At a regular City Council Meeting held on Feb 20, 2019 the following resolution was offered by LaBine and supported by Lytle;

WHEREAS, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is required of the City of Hancock;
and

WHEREAS, the Principal Residence of persons, who the Supervisor and Board of Review determines by reason of poverty to be unable to contribute to the public charge, is eligible for exemption in whole or in part from taxation under Public Act 390 of 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to PA 390 of 1994, the City Council adopts the following guidelines for the Board of Review to implement. The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year; To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis:

- 1) Be an owner of and occupy as a Principal Residence the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 2) File a claim with the supervisor or Board of Review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year or a signed State Tax Commission Form 4988, Poverty Exemption Affidavit.
- 3) File a claim reporting that the combined assets of all persons do not exceed the current guidelines. Assets include but are not limited to, real estate other than the principal residence, personal property, motor vehicles, recreational vehicles and equipment, certificates of deposit, savings accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, life insurance, retirement funds, etc.
- 4) Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested.
- 5) Produce, if requested, a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested.
- 6) Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services or alternative guidelines as adopted by the City, provided that the alternative guidelines do not provide eligibility requirements less than the federal guidelines.
- 7) The "Application for Property Tax Exemption – Poverty" shall be filed after January 1 and before December 5th of the year being requested.

The filing of this claim constitutes an appearance before the Board of Review for the purpose of preserving the right of appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. The Federal Poverty Income Guidelines, which are updated annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, are included as part of the application. The annual allowable income includes income for all persons residing at the principal residence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Supervisor and Board of Review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the Board of Review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these reasons are communicated in writing to the claimant.

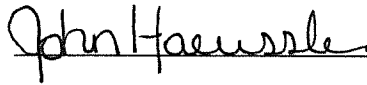
The vote in favor of the resolution being as follows:

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

Resolution declared adopted.



John Haeussler, Mayor

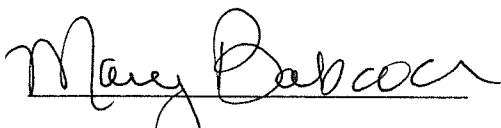


Mary Babcock, Clerk

CERTIFICATION

As the City Clerk, for The City of Hancock, Houghton County, Michigan, I certify that this a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council at its Regular City Council meeting.

Date:



Mary Babcock, Clerk